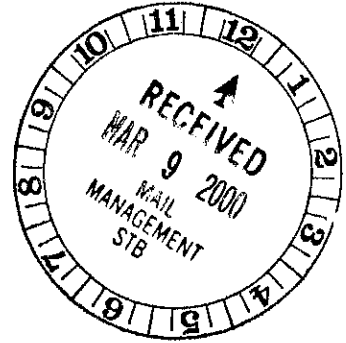


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Prairie Central Cooperative, Inc.
P. O. Box 230
Chenoa, IL 61726
2/18/00



Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
Case Control Unit, Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582
1925 K St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Regarding BNSF/CN

To Those That Are Interested:

Prairie Central Cooperative, Inc. ships over 3,000 carloads of corn and soybeans each year on the UP and TPW railroads. I support the STB's decision in the BNSF/CN docket to carefully examine the BNSF/CN proposed control application, including the effects it may have on the rail transportation industry. A major consolidation like the BNSF/CN is likely to lead to further consolidation in the rail industry. Much consolidation has already occurred. It seems to me a public policy debate on further consolidation is past due.

I fear that further consolidation, at this time, might contribute to distrust of motives by users of the railroads. Distrust of this major, vital transportation system is what lead to regulation in the past. I don't see the value in repeating that history. Careful consideration is called for before things are done that cannot easily be undone.

Sincerely,


Michael Sulzberger

Manager

Prairie Central Cooperative, Inc.
2/18/00